Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SYE-00 /006 W

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P R 301130Z MAR 78 FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 841 INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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SY CHANNEL

DEPT FOR A/SY/CC/TAG AND A/SY/PRS; NAIROBI FOR RSS FROM RSO PAYNE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC
SUBJECT: PROTECTIVE SECURITY: VISIT OF "USUN" DEPUTY
AMBASSADOR MC HENRY TO NAMIBIA

REF: (A) USUN 1120 (NOTAL), (B) USUN 1158, (C) CAPE TOWN 604 (NOTAL)

- 1. REFTELS (A) AND (B) INDICATE AMBASSADOR MCHENRY WILL VISIT NAMIBIA APRIL 4. IN PAST SOLO VISITS BY AMBASSADOR MCHENRY TO SOUTH AFRICA AND NAMIBIA RSO HAS FELT NO UNUSUAL THREATS POSED TO HIS SAFETY AND SECURITY. AMBASSADOR MCHENRY DOES NOT SEEM GENERATE SAME GAMUT EMOTIONALISM AMONG PUBLIC AND IN MEDIA IN THIS AREA AS DOES AMBASSADOR YOUNG. ON OTHER HAND, AMBASSADOR MCHENRY OVER PAST YEAR HAS BECOME RATHER WELL KNOWN THROUGH NEWSPAPER AND TV EXPOSURE AND SOME MEDIA COMMENTS, WHILE MORE TEMPERATE THAN MOST DIRECTED TOWARDS AMBASSADOR YOUNG, HAVE NOT BEEN ENTIRELY FAVORABLE.
- 2. RSO OF OPINION SY/CC/TAG SHOULD FOCUS ON SECURITY POTENTIAL POSED BY AMBASSADOR MCHENRY'S FORTHCOMING TRIP TO NAMIBIA ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT HE IS BECOMING BETTER KNOWON CONFIDENTIAL.

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TO SOUTH AFRICAN PUBLIC AS BLACK AMERICAN DIPLOMAT. WHILE REFTEL (C) MAY NOT NECESSARILY BE GERMANE TO AMBASSADOR MCHENRY'S SAFETY, IT DOES REFLECT POTENTIAL FOR VIOLENT ACTS WITHIN THE PARTICULAR VENUE OF AMBASSADOR MCHENRY'S DESTINATION.

3. SUGGEST SY CONTACT AMBASSADOR MCHENRY THROUGH

SAC OF SY DETAIL ACCOMPANYING PRESIDENTIAL PARTY AND SEE HOW HE FEELS ABOUT PROTECTIVE SERVICES ON FORTH-COMING TRIP TO NAMIBIA.

- 4. RSO HAS NOT DISCUSSED THIS MATTER WITH AMBASSADOR BOWDLER WHO CURRENTLY IS IN NAMIBIA.
- 5. IN EVENT SY AND AMBASSADOR MCHENRY FEEL PROTECTIVE ESCORT PRUDENT COURSE ACTION, SY SHOULD BE AWARE RSO PAYNE DEPARTS FOR HOME LEAVE APRIL 8. RSO BOCSKOR CAN HANDLE, HOWEVER, SHOULD ADDITIONAL SECURITY OFFICER FROM AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S DETAIL OR SECSTATE'S DETAIL BE AVAILABLE ASSIST, THIS OFFICE ALWAYS APPRECIATES HELPING HAND.
- 6. RSO EVALUATION IS THAT SAP TECHNICALLY CAPABLE OF PROVIDING ADEQUATE PROTECTION SUPPORT FOR AMBASSADOR MCHENRY. HOWEVER, POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS OF BRINGING SAP IN DIRECT CLOSE-SUPPORT OUR VIP WITHOUT SY BUFFER BECOMES POLITICALLY SENSITIVE ISSUE AND EVEN MORE SO AS IT REGARDS SAP ROLE IN NAMIBIA.
- 7. ADVISE. BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

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